

Appl. No. 09/827,798
Amtd. Dated August 23, 2004
Reply to Office Action of August 16, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

Listing of claims:

1 to 4 cancelled.

5. (original) A method for switching between a plurality of bitstreams in a data communication system, wherein said bitstreams correspond to a same data sequence but are encoded at different bitrates, said method comprising the steps of: placing a first picture within each of said plurality of bitstreams in locations at which switching from one of said plurality of bitstreams to another one of said plurality of bitstreams is desired; transmitting a second picture wherein said first picture and said second picture are represented by different bitstreams, but wherein said first picture and said second picture reconstructed values are identical.

6 to 9 cancelled